

1972
A N N U A L R E P O R T
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
and the
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the
MUNICIPAL BOROUGH
OF ROMSEY



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ANNUAL REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
for the
MUNICIPAL BOROUGH OF ROMSEY
YEAR 1972

To the Worshipful the Mayor,
Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Romsey.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present, for your information and consideration, the Annual Report on the health of your Borough for the year 1972.

The Chief Public Health Inspector's Report on the work of the Health Department, with which he is specially concerned, is embodied in the Report.

When considering the Vital Statistics, slight variations from year to year should not usually be regarded as statistically significant in view of the small population of the Borough.

I would like to express my thanks to the staff of the Department for the way in which they have carried out their duties in the year under review.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

R. J. K. TALLACK

Medical Officer of Health

STAFF

Medical Officer of Health	R. J. K. Tallack, M.B., Ch.B.D.P.H.
Chief Public Health Inspector (Also Engineer and Surveyor)	W. Bell, A.I.A.S., Mun.B.I., M.A.P.H. M.R.S.H
Additional Public Health Inspector (Also Deputy Engineer and Surveyor)	J. Webster, M.A.P.H.I.
Public Health Inspector	E. Bustin, M.A.P.H.I.
Meat Inspector (Part time)	G. N. Gould, M.R.C.V.S.
Secretary	Miss J. M. Hatch
Clerical Assistant	Mrs. J. M. McLellan

1. VITAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	1,212
Population (as estimated by the Registrar General)	11,160
Rateable Value	£1,323,056
Product of Penny rate	£13,107
Total Number of Council Houses	833
Total Number of Rateable Premises	4983

Summary of vital statistics for the year 1972 as
supplied by the Registrar General

	1972			1971
	Total	Male	Female	Total
Live Births: Total Registered	240	141	99	232
Legitimate	233	136	97	223
Illegitimate	7	5	2	9
Still Births: Total Registered	4	3	1	1
Legitimate	4	3	1	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-	-

	1972			1971
	Total	Male	Female	Total
Deaths: Total Registered	123	65	58	108
Maternal Mortality	-	-	-	-
Infant Mortality:				
Death of infants under one year of age -				
Total Registered	6	4	2	1
Legitimate	6	4	2	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-	1
Death of infants under four weeks of age -	4	2	2	1

	Comparative Statistics where available	
	Romsey Borough	England and Wales
Live birth rate per 1,000 estimated population	21.5	14.8
Still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births	16	12
Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births	25	17
Perinatal Mortality rate per 1,000 live births	33	22
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	3	9
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births	Nil	0.15
Death rate per 1,000 estimated population	11.0	12.1

Comparability Factors - Births 0.77
Deaths 0.99

The difference in the above should not be regarded as statistically significant in view of the small population of the Borough.

The chief causes of death, in order of frequency:-

	<u>1972</u> (% of all deaths)	<u>1971</u> (% of all deaths)
(a) Disease of the Heart and Circulatory System	36-29.27%	37-34.26%
(b) Cancer of all sites	27-21.95%	20-18.52%
(c) Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	21-17.07%	17-15.74%
(d) Respiratory Diseases (Excluding Tuberculosis)	15-12.20%	7- 6.48%

2. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

(i) The Medical Officer of Health is also the Medical Officer of Health of the Romsey and Stockbridge Rural District Council and a Senior Assistant County Medical Officer and School Medical Officer to the Hampshire County Council. This combined appointment helps to co-ordinate the Medical Services supplied by the County Council as the Local Health Authority, in accordance with Part III of the National Health Services Act, 1946 with the services supplied by the Borough Council and Regional Hospital Board.

(ii) The County Council supply the following services:

(a) Ambulance Service:

The Ambulance service is controlled by the Central Control in Winchester, telephone Winchester 61644.

All requests for Ambulances should be made through the above number for the area.

(b) Nursing in the Home:

Nurses and Midwives are responsible for domiciliary midwifery and home nursing. They keep in close touch with the County Council Health Visitors, the Medical Officer of Health and the General Practitioners in the area. No nursing arrangements or contributions are made by the Borough Council.

The attachment of Nurses and Midwives to two Group Medical practices in the Borough continued in 1972.

The Nurses are:-

Nurse J. Bishop, 'Juhu', Halterworth Lane, Crampmoor, Romsey. Telephone Romsey 512521	(District Nurse / Midwife)
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Nurse S. Bishop, The Flat, Monkswood, Belbins, Cupernham, Romsey. Telephone Braishfield 638	(District Nurse / Midwife)
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Nurse Picken, 'Kyrenia', Meganna Way, Braishfield, Telephone Braishfield 263	(District Nurse / Midwife)
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Nurse Cork, 8, Winfrith Way, Nursling, Southampton. Telephone Rownhams 2239	(District Nurse / Midwife)
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Nurse Gilks,
2, Lansdowne Gardens,
Romsey
Telephon Romsey 512116

(District Nurse)

Attached to practice of Drs. Rankine, Dale and Wattie:-

Nurse Cork
Nurse J. Bishop

Attached to Practice of Drs. Knight, Johnson, Johnson,
Summerhayes, Parry-Jones and Akerman:-

Nurse Picken
Nurse Gilks
Nurse S. Bishop

(c) Child Health:

The County Council employ Health Visitors who visit children from the age of two weeks, when they pass from the care of the District Midwives, until the age of five years when the child enters school. A child health clinic is held every Thursday afternoon at the Red Cross Centre, The Gardens, Winchester Road, Romsey.

The Health Visitors are:-

Mrs. M. Pointer,
'Bryn-Coed',
Newtown Road,
Sherfield English,
Telephone Lockerley 40377

(attached to the practice of Drs. Rankine, Dale and Wattie)

Mrs. E. C. Caton,
'Somerley',
Rownhams Lane,
Nursling.
Telephone Rownhams 2545

Mrs. A. Taylor,
'Beechwood',
Ampfield,
Romsey.
Telephone Braishfield 392

(attached to practice of Drs. Knight, Johnson, Johnson,
Summerhayes, Parry-Jones and Akerman)

(d) Dental Treatment:

Dental treatment is available at the Dental Clinic, Priestlands Secondary School, Romsey (Telephone Romsey 513347) for school children, pre-school children, expectant and nursing mothers as well as for the mentally handicapped attending Training Centres and Special Schools. Appointment may be obtained from the Dental Clinic or from the Chief Dental Officer, The Castle Winchester (Winchester 4411 Ext. 323).

(e) Care of Mothers and Young Children:

Ante-natal supervision and dental care are provided for expectant mothers and dental care is provided for mothers in the first year of the baby's life and for children up to school age. Ante-natal clinics and parentcraft classes are held in the surgeries of the General Medical practitioners.

(f) Home Help Services:

This service is provided for mothers confined at home, for those in charge of the elderly, chronic sick etc. The organiser for this area has an office at Red House, Romsey Road, Eastleigh. Telephone Eastleigh 2558.

(g) Nurseries and Child Minders Regulation Act, 1948:

The following are registered under the above Act:

Mrs. M. Cameron, Arran House, Carisbrooke Court, Romsey.	Premises at	Girl Guide Headquarters, Baden Powell Way, Off Alma Road, Romsey.
Mrs. Nicholson, 7, Chestnut Close, Romsey.	Premises at	Over 60's Club, Linden Road, Romsey.
Mrs. B. Perratt, Conkers, 6, Durban Close, Romsey.	Premises at	The Woodley Scout Hut, Woodley Close, Romsey.
Mrs. P. Ventham, Ulla Dulla, 1, Wynyards Gap, North Baddesley.	Premises at	The Abbey Congregational Church Hall, The Abbey, Romsey.
Mrs. M. Bland	At her home address	24, The Vikings, Romsey.
Mrs. A. Broom	At her home address	Bickleigh House, Station Road, Romsey.
Mrs. S. Day	At her home address	Grafton, Botley Road, Whitenap, Romsey.
Mrs. C. D. McCallion	At her home address	14, Wessex Gardens, Romsey.
Mrs. A. Payne	At her home address	14, Addison Close, Romsey.
Mrs. P. Quirke	At her home address	66, Northlands Road, Whitenap, Romsey

Mrs. S. Smith	At her home address	22, Beverley Gardens, Great Woodley, Romsey.
Mrs. A. Stokes	At her home address	Wynton, Winchester Hill, Romsey.
Mrs. J. Thomas	At her home address	Westmead, Cupernham Lane, Romsey.
Mrs. J. R. True	At her home address	Cupernham Farm, Cupernham Lane, Romsey.

(h) Care of the Elderly:

A County Council home for the elderly is situated in Romsey at the Gardens, Winchester Road.

The meals-on wheels service is provided by the W.R.V.S., T. A. Drill Hall, Station Road, Romsey. Telephone No. Romsey 513162.

(i) Vaccination and Immunisation:

See later in this report.

(j) Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care

These services are part of the duties of the Medical Officer of Health, Health Visitors and District Nurses.

(k) Mental Health Services:

As from 1st April, 1971 responsibility for Special Schools for severely sub-normal children (former Junior Training Centres) was accepted by the Education Authority.

The service remains as follows:-

(i) Day Special School:

Greenacres Day Special School,
Andover Road,
Winchester.
Telephone Winchester 62450

Icknield Day Special School,
River Way,
Andover,
Telephone Andover 5297

(ii) Branches of Hampshire Training Industries
(Adult Training Centre):

Andover Branch,
Station Approach,
Junction Road,
Andover.

Bishopstoke Branch,
Church Road,
Bishopstoke,
Eastleigh.

Mental Health Social Work services are provided by Officers based on the Area Mental Health Office, Friarsgate Health Clinic, Winchester and the following Officers serve the Romsey Borough area:-

- (i) Mr. J. E. Morrison,
Senior Mental Health Social Worker
- (ii) Mr. T. Trueman,
Mental Health Social Worker

During working hours these Officers can be contacted by telephoning Winchester 62144, Extension 49. At all other times the appropriate duty Officer can be contacted through the Central Ambulance Control (Winchester 61644).

(iii) Hospital Services:

The Wessex Regional Hospital Board supply general, maternity and infectious diseases (including Smallpox and Tuberculosis) hospital services for this area at Romsey Hospital and The Mount Hospital, Bishopstoke.

General, medical and surgical hospital services are provided by Southampton University Hospital Management Committee at Royal South Hants Hospital, Southampton; General Hospital, Southampton; Western Hospital, Eye Hospital and Childrens' Hospital, Southampton.

Maternity services are provided at Romsey Hospital and at the Maternity Unit, Southampton General Hospital.

(iv) Laboratory Service:

Laboratory facilities are available at the Medical Research Council Laboratories at Southampton and Winchester.

(v) Public Health Services provided by your Council during the year:

(a) Prevention of Accidents:

Education of the Public to lessen the incidence of accidents, especially those in the home is undertaken by your Public Health Inspectors and Medical Officer of Health.

The local branch of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents continued work.

The Police continued their very valuable work of training in road safety and proficiency testing of cyclists in the Borough schools.

(b) Health Education:

Posters and other materials from the Health Education Council Limited and Ministry of Health are received and displayed. All possible opportunities for addressing meetings were taken by your Medical Officer of Health and Public Health Inspectors. Talks to Parent/Teacher Associations and other groups have been given by Health Visitors and Health Education Officers. There is no great public enthusiasm for information about health and in the Borough there appears to be an average public lack of interest in understanding the scientific knowledge on which our health and sanitary services are built. A series of colour transparencies on "The Nursing Services of a Group Practice" were taken and their use as a visual aid to lectures on the County Nursing Service proved very useful.

(vi) National Assistance Act, 1948 - Section 47:

No action was taken under this section of the Act but several elderly people, especially those living alone, had many problems with which Health Department staff were asked to help. In all cases your staff were able either to explain, to help physically or to call in another helping agency; the County Social Services Department Officers were as usual, most co-operative.

(vii) Work Carried out by Voluntary Societies:

The Red Cross provides the only subsidised chiropody service for old people in the Borough. Details of the chiropody service are available from the Red Cross Centre, The Gardens, Winchester Road, Romsey.

(viii) Nursing Home:

There is one Private Nursing home in the Borough:-

The Durban Nursing Home,
Woodley Lane,
Romsey,
Telephon 512332

3. PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER NOTIFIABLE DISEASES:

One case of Scarlet Fever was notified in the Borough during the year.

a. Immunisation against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus:

The estimated number of children in the Borough who received diphtheria immunisation during 1972 was as follows:-

Year of Birth	Primary Doses	Reinforcing Doses
1972	-	-
1971	196	-
1970	49	-
1969	5	3
1965/68	-	3
Other under 16	-	-
Total	250	6

b. Vaccination Against Smallpox:

Year	Primary Vaccination				Total Prim-ary	Re-vacc-ination	Grand Total
	0-1 Year	1 - 2 Years	2 - 15 Years	Over 15 Years			
1962	57	19	307	328	711	739	1450
1963	5	8	3	3	19	33	52
1964	36	8	1	5	50	29	79
1965	40	19	12	4	75	31	106
1966	26	28	5	8	67	33	100
1967	77	58	8	52	195	38	233
1968	35	-	33	-	68	8	76
1969	12	8	40	3	63	9	72
1970	1	169	51	-	221	19	240
1971	-	28	141	-	169	7	176
1972	3	6	13	-	22	48	70

The level of primary vaccination of young children is still low. It is now usual to vaccinate children at about the time of the first birthday as side effects and excessive reactions are minimal at that age. The Borough is so close to a great seaport and to an airport that it is most important that all healthy children be vaccinated.

c. Vaccination Against Poliomyelitis;

Year	Completed Vaccination	Fourth dose for School Child
1962	175	25
1963	71	39
1964	91	27
1965	141	92
1966	172	81
1967	212	82
1968	95	168
1969	26	179
1970	27	224
1971	233	157
1972	260	158

Many people are inclined to forget the need for vaccination against poliomyelitis since the disease has been very nearly eliminated from the Country. There is no doubt that the decrease in incidence is in large part due to vaccination administered during the past few years and it is essential that a high level of vaccination should be maintained. There are still many children who are not taken to a doctor for the three doses of vaccine and the 'booster' which is given to school children.

d. Vaccination Against Measles:

Year of Birth	No. of Children Vaccinated
1972	-
1971	133
1970	87
1969	16
1965/68	40
Others under 16	1
Total	277

There were no cases of measles notified in the Borough.

	1972	1971
Number of children vaccinated by the Medical Officer of Health	26	36
Records received in respect of General Practitioners Computer Appointments	251	355
Total	277	391

e. Vaccination Against Rubella - (German Measles)

In July 1970 the Department of Health and Social Security arranged that vaccination against Rubella (German Measles) would be made available to girls aged 11, 12 and 13. Priority was to be given to girls in the latter age group and parents would be given the chance of having their girls vaccinated at school or by their General Practitioner.

Initially the County Medical Officer invited the parents of school girls to participate in this scheme and your Medical Officer of Health on Programming these sessions in the various schools collected the following information:-

	<u>1970</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>
(a) Number of girls to be vaccinated at County School Sessions	150	Nil	487
(b) Number of girls whose parents did not wish them to be vaccinated	12	Nil	60
Totals	<u>162</u>	<u>Nil</u>	<u>547</u>

On completion of the programme the position was as follows:-

	<u>1970</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>
(a) Number of girls vaccinated by Medical Officer of Health.	141	Nil	461
(b) Number of girls who were absent or not vaccinated for other reasons	9	Nil	26
(c) Number of girls whose parents did not wish them to be vaccinated.	12	Nil	60
Totals	<u>162</u>	<u>Nil</u>	<u>547</u>

4. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE BOROUGH

(a) GENERAL

The Public Health Department is combined with that of the Engineer and Surveyor and consequently its duties exceed those normally encountered in a department solely concerned with public health duties.

The department is largely responsible for the improvement of private houses being intimately concerned from the initial inquiry to the final building inspection and certification of completion for payment.

In addition to public health other duties include the normal functions of an Engineers Department; design and preparation of drawings for highway, small sewerage and some new housing works; maintenance of some 832 Council owned houses together with other civic properties, outdoor swimming pool, public hall and park; maintenance of sewage disposal works, sewers and pumping stations and public conveniences; supervision of some 44 outdoor staff; inspection of plans deposited under Building Regulations and inspection of properties in the course of erection; in this connection there were 127 new dwellings completed during the year and 139 new dwellings in the course of erection at the close of the year.

(b) WATER SUPPLY

The Borough of Romsey lies in the statutory area of the Southampton Corporation Waterworks and the following information was kindly supplied by Mr. W. G. H. Tripp, M.A., C.Eng., M.I.C.E., M.I.W.E., Waterworks Engineer and Manager.

The water supply to the Borough has been satisfactory (i) in quality and (ii) in quantity.

No cases of contamination took place.

The number of houses supplied is as follows:-

(i)	direct to houses	-	3,549
(ii)	by standpipes	-	Nil

The average fluoride content of the water supplied during 1972 was as follows:-

(i)	Timsbury	-	0.36 mg/l
(ii)	Testwood	-	0.15 mg/l
(iii)	Twyford	-	0.15 mg/l

The actual water supplied to Romsey comes from the Timsbury Pumping Station which is about three miles north of the Borough. At times of peak demand this supply is augmented by water from Testwood Pumping Station through a 24 inch diameter steel main laid along the main road from Nursling, or by water from Twyford Pumping Station through a 21 inch diameter steel main along the Botley Road.

The water from the Timsbury Pumping Station is derived from a system of wells and adits in the upper chalk of the Test Valley and before being put into supply is treated with chlorine. The Station is equipped with modern electrically driven pumping plant with diesel driven pumps as standby. Water is pumped from the wells to the treatment works and after treatment it is then further pumped to a service reservoir at Michelmersh whence it gravitates into supply through trunk water mains which pass through the Borough of Romsey.

Regular samples are taken of both raw and treated water at the Timsbury source for bacteriological examination and the results have always indicated a consistently high standard of purity.

The examination of water is carried out by the Southampton City Analyst and also by the Public Health Laboratory at Winchester. The City Analyst also carried out chemical analysis on quarterly samples of both raw and treated water.

There are in the Borough approximately 27 miles of water mains varying from 24" diameter to 2" diameter and these mains afford a piped supply of water to all premises and to industrial and other metered consumers. The Southampton Corporation operate a tap washering and a plumbing repair service on a repayment basis.

(c) DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The whole of the built-up area of the Borough is served by public sewer except the undeveloped land north of the Railway between Canal Walk and Greatbridge Road.

A scheme for the sewerage of this area has been prepared by Consulting Engineers as it is anticipated that housing and other development will take place there within the near future. The scheme has been accepted in principle by the Council and submitted to the Department of the Environment. The scheme will comprise the construction of a large pumping station in the area of Greatbridge Road which will receive sewage from the trunk main serving the area including probable development within the Rural District. It will discharge at the Greenhill Sewage Disposal Works via a new rising main to the west of the town.

Almost all the houses in the Borough are connected to the public sewer with the exception of some 15 premises which are still using cesspool drainage. In most cases a connection to the sewer is available for these dwellings. No overflowing cesspools nor cesspools giving rise to nuisance were reported or found.

All foul sewage gravitates to Sadlers Mill pumping station from whence it is pumped via two rising mains to Greenhill Sewage Disposal Works. Pumping plant at Sadlers Mill comprises a water powered turbine pump and two electrically powered centrifugal pumps. The whole of the sewage is directed by rising main to the disposal works and is dependent upon the turbine and two electric pumps referred to above.

During the year failure of both the turbine and electric pumps caused the level of sewage in the sewers to the lower part of the town to rise. In order to prevent the danger of flooding agreement has been reached that a properly constructed screened emergency overflow to the river should be provided. This would form a final safeguard in the event of the failure of the water driven turbine and a prolonged power cut / failure to the two electric pumps. The Council's Consulting Engineers have prepared a scheme for such an emergency relief in conjunction with an automatic warning device. It is anticipated that the work will be commenced in the early part of 1973.

There are two other pumping stations in the sewerage system utilising Flygt submersible pumps.

The Greenhill Sewage Disposal Works comprises constant velocity grit channels, comminutor, balancing tanks, pyramid primary settlement tanks, circular percolating filters and humus tanks. In addition a two tank Simplex sludge digestion plant and some 19,000 square feet of sludge drying beds are provided. Storm water up to three times the dry weather flow is treated by settlement before discharge to a watercourse. The average daily flow of sewage at the treatment works was 0.640 m.g.

The flow of domestic and trade effluent has continued to increase and the load treated at the Greenhill Sewage Disposal Works has further exceeded the design capacity.

The preparation of the scheme by the Council's Consulting Engineers for the extension of the Sewage Disposal Works to service the increasing population and industry, has proceeded, and it is anticipated that tenders will be invited during the coming year.

The times when our effluent was known to be poor coincided with the times of excessive storm-water flow after heavy or prolonged rainfall, storm tanks were then spilling to the river over a long period.

During the year some further new sewers were laid by private developers to serve the extensive new housing estates within the district. The system of public sewers, both foul and storm which has been considerably extended by the growth of private development in the outer areas of the Borough was again extended by the development of two new estates and continued expansion of existing estates.

(d) PUBLIC CLEANSING

There was no change during the year in the method of scavenging but the use of paper sacks in lieu of dustbins was further extended, particularly for new dwellings. A further 150 Council properties were provided with paper sack stands. The skip method in use whereby refuse is emptied from dustbins into skips for cartage to the collection vehicle, while saving time and labour causes more litter and dust nuisance than other methods. It continues in use, however, due to pressure of work and the shortage of labour.

The refuse collecting service is carried out by direct labour and covers the whole of the Borough. All premises are visited once per week in normal circumstances. Extra collection and trade refuse collection are made where required at more frequent intervals for which a charge of 15p. per bin is made. There has been an increase in the use of the trade refuse scheme.

The refuse collection service has continued to operate with two vehicles, each with its own refuse collection team.

During the summer, delivery was taken of a second Eagle Compressload 5 continuous loading refuse freighter. A reserve Karrier Gamecock for and aft vehicle has permitted vehicle servicing to be readily arranged. No appreciable difficulties due to labour shortage, holidays or illness has been experienced and the service has been reasonably trouble free.

The purchase of the additional Compressload vehicle has increased the efficiency of the Team. Work study on the service was commenced at the close of the year and further improvements are anticipated.

A rear of the house collection is made in all cases except in a limited number of houses where there is no rear access where bins are collected from the kerbside.

Refuse is disposed of on a controlled tip at Casbrook Common operated by the Romsey and Stockbridge Rural District Council a charge being made by the Rural District Council for the arrangement.

This tip is also available for use by members of the public as a refuse dump in accordance with the provisions of the Civic Amenities Act, 1967.

During the year action was taken under the provisions of the Civic Amenities Act, 1967 in respect of abandoned vehicles. Vehicles are normally collected and disposed of for the Council by a private contractor at nominal cost to the Council. There was further improvement during the year and very few abandoned vehicles had to be removed.

The highway cleansing is also carried out by direct labour and all roads are, in normal circumstances, swept weekly with more frequent sweeping in the Town Centre. Some classified roads are cleansed by arrangement with the Hampshire County Council who contribute towards the cost of this service.

During the year a second Blaw Knox Pathmaster 42 mechanical sweeper was bought to further improve the street cleaning service to the ever expanding built up area of the town.

(e) SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

During the year visits and inspections continued to be made by Public Health Staff in respect of defective drainage, defective premises, accumulation of refuse, dirty premises, noise nuisances, smoke nuisances, and all other complaints of public health nuisances. Informal notices to secure the abatement of nuisances and remedying of defects have in general proved effective. The service of Statutory Notices has been encess ry in respect of two premises only. Nuisance Orders were obtained in respect of six premises.

(f) COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no common lodging houses in the Borough.

(g) OFFENSIVE TRADES

There are no offensive trades established in the Borough.

(h) INSECT INFESTATION

Insect infestations, reported during the year, were treated at no cost to the householder. A small number of cockroach infestations in business premises were treated on a cost basis.

(i) RODENT CONTROL

211 infestations in domestic and business premises were notified, an increase of 33 over the previous year.

A total of 229 other inspections were carried out in domestic and trade premises, sewers watercourses and ditches, which brought to light a further 56 infestations.

The use of Warfarin against rat infestations continues to be satisfactory. In some areas of the Borough Warfarin resistance in mice proved to be somewhat of a problem. However a change of poison proved to be satisfactory in controlling infestations.

Domestic premises are treated free of charge whilst business premises are treated on a cost basis.

Infestations	Rats	Mice
Domestic premises	140	29
Trade Premises	45	17
Sewers	6	Nil
Watercourses, ditches etc.	30	Nil
Totals	221	46

(j) SMOKE CONTROL

None of the industrial premises in the Borough uses raw coal in its heating equipment.

Complaints of dark smoke emissions from a factory chimney were investigated and repairs were carried out. In addition smoke detectors and alarm systems were installed and a training system for the boiler room staff was arranged by the firm concerned.

Two applications for the determination of chimney height pursuant to Section 6 and notifications of proposed installation of new furnaces pursuant to Section 3, of the Clean Air Act, 1969 were dealt with during the year.

5. FACTORIES ACT, 1961

(i) Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspec- tions	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
i. Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	5	2	-	-
ii. Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	40	13	-	-
iii. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Out-workers' premises)	-	-	-	-
	45	15	-	-

(ii) Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of Prosecutions
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S. 1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S. 2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S. 4)	1	1	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for Sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-

(iii) Outwork - Section 133 and 134

There are no registered outworkers employed in the District.

6. SWIMMING POOL

The Department manages the only public swimming pool and paddling pool in the area. The pool which measures 75 feet x 35 feet is uncovered and is provided with adequate washing facilities and changing and clothes storage accommodation.

The pool is filled with mains fresh water which is continuously circulated by pumps through a pressure sand filter, together with chlorination plant and a fountain type aerator. The rate of circulation ensures a change of water every four hours.

During the year the Council resolved to heat the swimming pool water and to cover the pool with a prefabricated building during 1973. By the close of the year plans were well advanced for these purposes.

Improvement to the water treatment plant carried out by the installation of a Wallace and Tiernan V notch (Chlorine) gas control unit and soda ash metering pump which replaced the obsolete Visible Vacuum (Bell jar) plant in 1971 and associated hydraulic solution feeders previously installed, proved itself during the summer season when a great deal of use was made of the pool by the public. Frequent routine samples of water were collected throughout the season and a total of 16 pool water samples were submitted for bacteriological examination. All of the samples were found to be satisfactory.

7. HOUSING

The Department is responsible for building control within the Borough which includes the inspection of deposited plans and the inspection of buildings in course of erection. In this connection 127 entirely new dwelling were completed by private enterprise and in addition a considerable number of house extensions and other minor works were carried out.

The scheme for the redevelopment of the Council's Arcon 'prefab' site at Symes Road was completed by the erection of forty 2 and 3 bedroom flats to Parker Morris standards. In addition work was commenced on the erection of a block of 36 one bedroom flats at Broadwater Road.

There were approximately 159 applicants on the Council housing list at the end of the year.

During the year 25 new applications were received for Qualification Certificates under the Housing Act, 1969 and Housing Finance Act, 1972. During the same period 21 Certificates were issued and 4 applications refused pending repairs and / or provision of amenities.

34 applications for Discretionary and 3 for Standard Improvement Grants were received and approved, enabling owners to improve and provide modern amenities for their dwellings with financial assistance.

Of this number 5 were the result of tenants representations and Section 19 of the Housing Act, 1964 and a further 8 in consequence of action taken under the Public Health Acts by the Inspectorate.

8. SERVICES UNDER THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

(a) MILK SUPPLIES - BRUCELLA ABORTUS

Samples are not taken within the Borough for examination in connection with brucella abortus.

(b) FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL REGULATIONS) 1970

There is a total of 70 food premises in the Borough, which total includes 9 supermarkets incorporating most trades.

Routine inspection of food premises continued throughout the year and where contraventions were discovered they were in general rectified expeditiously without recourse to formal action. In a small number of instances some problems due to age and structure of buildings still persist, it is however anticipated that further improvements will be made in these cases in the coming year.

Consumer food complaints are dealt with by the Department and each case is fully investigated and where necessary recommendations were made to manufacturers and retailers. In one instance proceedings were taken under Section 2 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

Inspection of deposited plans is undertaken in connection with other objects, for compliance with the Food Hygiene Regulations. Inspection of plans and shop premises in the course of erection have resulted in likely contraventions being obviated and better arrangements generally.

Type of Premises	Number of Premises	Inspections
Grocers including Supermarkets	18	26
Butchers / Fishmonger	6	13
Restaurants, Hotels, Public Houses	28	20
Fruit and Vegetables	4	5
Fried Fish Shops	3	5
Bakers, Confectioners etc.	11	12
Totals	70	81

(c) POULTRY INSPECTION

There are no poultry processing premises within the Borough.

(d) FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955 - SECTIONS 16 / 18

Of 37 premises currently registered under Section 16 and 18 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, 30 are registered for the storage and sale of ice cream and the remainder for preparation and sale of preserved foods.

(e) UN SOUND FOOD SURRENDERED

It was not found necessary to 'seize' any food during the year but the following foods were surrendered for disposal.

Meat and poultry (other than slaughterhouses)	224 lbs
Miscellaneous canned goods	29 tins
Fruit	Nil
Individual retail packs of various frozen food consequent upon the failure of supermarket freezers during the year.	4920

(f) SLAUGHTERHOUSES

There is one licensed slaughterhouse in the Borough.

The following figures are taken from the Meat Inspectors reports:-

(i) Animals Slaughtered

Pigs	Nil
Lambs	39
Bullocks	119
Calves	1
Cattle	3
Sheep	Nil
Sows	Nil

(ii) Total Weight Condemned - Meat

Whole carcasses	Nil
Parts of carcasses	Nil

(iii) Total Weight Condemned - Offal

Liver	114 lbs.
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9. OFFICES SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

During the year inspections of various premises were undertaken in conjunction with visits for other purposes. In addition attention was paid to the requirements of the Act when deposited plans were inspected, this being one of the advantages of a joint department.

There were 107 premises on the register at the end of the year, a decrease of 4.

The total number of persons employed in registered premises was 773 an increase of 67.

Table I(a) Registration and General Inspections

Class of Premises	Number of Premises Registering for the first time during the year	Number Registered at the end of the year	Number of Registered Premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	1	23	9
Retail Shops	6	67	50
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses	Nil	4	6
Catering Establishments	Nil	11	7
Fuel Storage Depots	Nil	2	-
Totals	7	107	72

Table II Analysis of Contraventions Found

Section	Contraventions Found	Number
4	Cleanliness	2
5	Overcrowding	-
6	Temperature	2
7	Ventilation	-
8	Lighting	1
9	Sanitary Conveniences	3
10	Washing Facilities	1
11	Supply of Drinking Water	-
12	Clothing Accommodation	2
13	Sitting Facilities	-
14	Seats (Sedentary Workers)	-
15	Eating Facilities	-
16	Floors, Passages, Stairs	4
17	Fencing of Exposed Parts of Machinery	2
18	Protection of Young Persons from Dangerous Machinery	-
19	Training of Young Persons on Dangerous Machinery	-
23	Prohibition of Heavy Work	-
24	First Aid Provisions (First Aid Boxes)	10
50	Information to Employees - Display of Abstracts	7

Accidents

A total of 5 accidents are reported during the year all being minor in nature.

One of these accidents was brought about by the operator of a tail-lift delivery vehicle trapping his foot in the mechanism. Fortunately the injury was not serious but in view of the major increase in the use of this equipment a specific report was made to the Factory Inspectorate in this instance.

Table III Total number of Persons Employed in Registered Premises

	1972	1971
Males	339	300
Females	434	406
	773	706

10. FORMAL SAMPLING

Formal sampling of food and drugs, under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 is carried out by Mr. J. S. Preston, M.I.W.M.A. Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures, who kindly supplied the following report:-

"During the year which ended 31st December, 1972, 77 samples were procured under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, within the Borough of Romsey.

Milk Samples

Seventeen samples of milk, including four of "Channel Islands", were obtained, all being of satisfactory quality.

Miscellaneous Samples

Sixty samples of other foods and drugs were taken, two being the subject of adverse reports, as follows:-

Prawns - incorrect description

These products were invoiced to a retailer as "prawns", the cartons in which they were packed, however, being marked with the description "shrimps". Although not then in force, the Labelling of Food Regulations, 1970, provide for a distinction between "prawns" and shrimps" (which are of the same species of fish) according to size. Examination of the articles showed that some of the fish may correctly have fallen into the category of prawns but the majority were too small for this and consisted of shrimps. It appeared that the description on the invoice had occurred owing to a misunderstanding of the position and the matter was dealt with in an advisory capacity.

Concentrated Milk - incorrect composition and labelling

The sample was of partly condensed milk which, although perfectly wholesome, did not strictly conform to the requirements of the Condensed Milk Regulations in relation to composition and labelling. The article was a new type of product for which the Regulations were not altogether appropriate and, following discussions at national level, having regard to the possibility of amendment of the Regulations, the issue was left in abeyance pending a formal decision.

Following a consumer complaint alleging that some cauliflower had given rise to sickness, cauliflowers from the same source were submitted for analysis. The complaint did not appear to be justified, however, as no trace of pesticide residue or anything else likely to have caused adverse effects was found in the product.

General

In addition to the samples taken under the Act, attention was given to the description and labelling of food and drugs in accordance with the provisions of the Labelling of Food Order and the Pharmacy and Medicines Act. No complaints of a serious nature were reported."

